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September 11, 2020

Thank you for subscribing to my weekly newsletter. Below you will find important federal, state and local updates from the last week curated for you in one place.

Today we remember the horrific tragedy and heroic sacrifices made nearly twenty years ago. That fateful day in New York changed the lives of all Americans. Especially now, as we did then, we must stand with our front line workers and first responders as they continue to aid and protect us in the face of uncertain times.

Should you have any questions about the information below, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Sincerely,



## Labor Day Office Closures

The District & Capitol offices will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2020, in observance of Labor Day. Please utilize the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter or [district127.huberty@house.texas.gov](mailto:district127.huberty@house.texas.gov) and your message will be addressed in the order it was received, once we return to work on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

## State Updates

### DSHS: COVID-19 Case Dashboard

Texas Case Counts

**COVID-19**

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

Governor Abbott Calls On Candidates and Texans to  
Sign Pledge Against Defunding The Police





**I sign this Texas Backs the Blue Pledge to oppose any efforts to defund the police and to show my support for the brave law enforcement officers who risk their lives to protect and serve. Defunding our police departments would invite crime into our communities and put people in danger. That is why I pledge to support any measure that discourages or stops efforts to defund police departments in Texas.**

**Our law enforcement officers have our backs every single day, and we need to show them that Texans have their backs.**

**#TexasBacksTheBlue**



SIGNATURE



GREG ABBOTT, GOVERNOR

*Not Printed at State Expense*

**TWDB requests your input on a  
new [TexasFlood.org](https://www.texasflood.org) Survey**



In 2019, the Texas Legislature and Governor Abbott greatly expanded the Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) role in flood mapping, planning, and financing. In addition to our existing flood programs, the TWDB will administer a new state and regional flood planning process, increase flood-related financial assistance, and advance our flood modeling and mapping capacities.

As the agency expands our data, information, and resources related to flooding in Texas, a key priority is to ensure that flood-related information is timely, user friendly, and easy to find. To help with that effort, the TWDB is developing a new [TexasFlood.org](https://www.texasflood.org) that will become a one-stop shop for flood-related data and information, and we'd like your input

via a [short survey](#).

The purpose of the survey is to understand what flood-related information you find most valuable and how best to present that information on the new version of the site. It should only require 5 to 10 minutes of your time and will be open through September 8.

Thank you in advance for providing key input that will benefit Texans for years to come.

[Take the Survey](#)

## TDEM: Remembering the Galveston Hurricane of 1900

### Remembering the Galveston Hurricane of 1900

September 8th, 1900 - Galveston, Texas was hit by one of the most devastating Category 4 hurricanes in US history. Between 6k and 12k people lost their lives. Today, on the 120th anniversary, we remember those that were lost. #TexasStrong...

[Read more](#)  
twitter.com

## FEMA Ends Lost Wages Assistance Program, State Unemployment Benefits to Continue



### FEMA Ends Lost Wages Assistance Program, State...

Date: September 9, 2020 Media Contact: James Bernsen Phone: 512-497-6725 Last Week of Funding was Week Ending Sep. 5 AUSTIN - On September 9, 2020 the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) informed the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC),...

[Read more](#)  
www.twc.texas.gov

## GLO Accepting New Applications for Homeowner Assistance Program in Harris County



The Texas General Land Office (GLO) is now accepting new applications for the [Homeowner Assistance Program in Harris County](#). Harris County homeowners affected by Hurricane Harvey who are still in need of assistance to repair or rebuild their homes are encouraged to apply. The program provides repairs, rehabilitation, reconstruction, or other improvements so that the damaged home is more resilient against natural disasters, including elevating homes above flood level.

You are welcome to encourage your constituents who have not yet applied with the Harris County's Project Recovery HAP, to apply:

1. Online at [recovery.texas.gov/hap/harriscounty](http://recovery.texas.gov/hap/harriscounty)
2. Over the phone with a GLO Customer Service Representative at 346-222-4686, or toll free at (866) 317-1998
3. Via email at [harriscounty.glo@recovery.texas.gov](mailto:harriscounty.glo@recovery.texas.gov)

The GLO is committed to assisting those in the recovery process through the Homeowner's Assistance Program.

[Learn More Here](#)

## SCAM ALERT: AG Paxton Warns Texans About Text Message Scam



KEN PAXTON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

### SCAM ALERT: AG Paxton Warns Texans About Text Message Scam

Attorney General Ken Paxton today warned Texans about scammers sending text messages that include a false package delivery notice and a fraudulent link. The text messages in question usually claim that a package is pending delivery and requests...

[Read more](#)

[www.texasattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov)

## Secretary Hughs Announces “Ready. Check. Vote.” Statewide Grassroots Tour



## Secretary Hughs Announces "Ready. Check. Vote."...

AUSTIN - Texas Secretary of State Ruth R. Hughs today announced a new statewide grassroots tour as part of the "Ready. Check. Vote." initiative to safely educate Texas voters about what they need to bring to the polls when they cast their ballot.

[Read more](#)

[www.sos.state.tx.us](http://www.sos.state.tx.us)

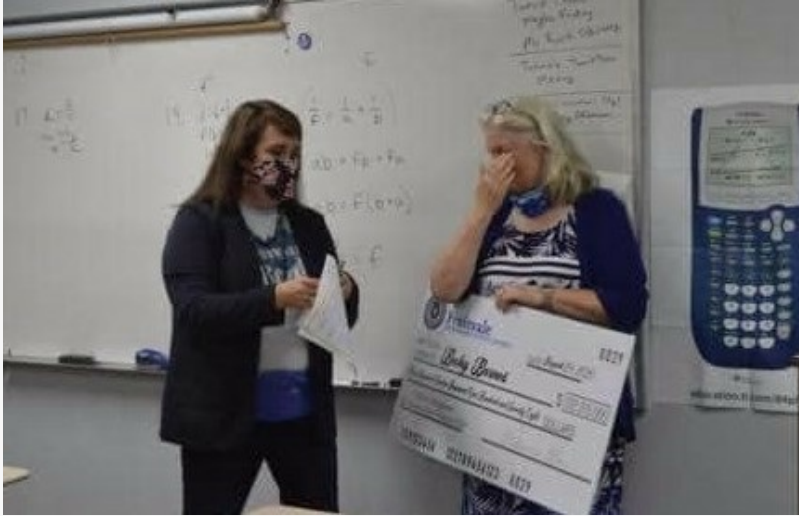
## Complete the 2020 Census Today!

I challenge you  
— TO COMPLETE —  
the census to shape  
the future of  
your community

Responses to the 2020 Census will shape how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding are distributed to local communities annually.

**#shapeyourfuture**

# TEA Distributes \$40 Million to Texas School Districts to Help Recruit, Retain Effective Teachers



## TEA distributes \$40 million to Texas school districts in ...

"We had had issues in prior years of keeping teachers in a small rural district because you know, we get these new teachers in, and they're doing a great job, and then they can go make more money in a bigger school," Fruitvale ISD Superintendent...

[Read more](#)  
[www.kxan.com](http://www.kxan.com)

## House Public Education Committee Issues Requests For Information (RFIs)

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and challenges in scheduling public hearings at this time, the House Committee on Public Education is conducting necessary oversight functions through an information gathering process under Section 301.014, Government Code.

This is notice that the House Committee on Public Education is seeking information and input from state agencies, interested parties, and the public in regard to the topics and questions outlined below. Submissions received in response to this request will be transmitted to members of the committee and posted on the House website.

The Committee has issued several RFIs to garner responses regarding COVID-19 and [Interim Charges](#). Each RFI can be viewed at the links below:

- **Interim Charge 1:**
  - <https://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/86R/schedules/html/C4002020081900001.HTM>
- **Interim Charge 2:**
  - <https://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/86R/schedules/html/C4002020081900002.HTM>
- **Interim Charge 3:**
  - <https://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/86R/schedules/html/C4002020081900003.HTM>
- **Interim Charge 4:**
  - <https://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/86R/schedules/html/C4002020081900004.HTM>
- **COVID-19:**
  - <https://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/86R/schedules/html/C4002020081900005.HTM>

### Submission Guidelines

- Submissions must be in Microsoft Word, written in a 10-point font or larger.
- Please submit a separate document for each topic to which you are responding.
- Submissions are to be limited to 5 pages of text in length.
- Submissions must be submitted via e-mail to [education@house.texas.gov](mailto:education@house.texas.gov)

Please include the following information in the submission email: submitter name, organization, or entity (if applicable and an authorized representative), mailing address, email, and telephone number.

**The deadline for all submissions is Wednesday, September 30, 2020.** Comments received in response to this Request for Information will be publicly posted on TLO, TLIS, and the House website. When submitting comments, please remove any personal identifying information, such as your personal phone number, residence address, or e-mail address. In the event it becomes feasible to safely conduct a public meeting, the Committee reserves the right to hold an in-person hearing on these charges.

## City of Houston & Harris County Updates

### Harris County Public Health Dashboard



Harris County  
**Public Health**  
Building a Healthy Community

## Register for "Month of Service" Community Classes!



### **CitizensNet**

REGISTER FOR "MONTH OF SERVICE" COMMUNITY CLASSES! Virtual Classes Explore Legal Issues in the Pandemic The Department of Neighborhoods and community partners continue to serve Houstonians while adhering to social distancing by offering our...

[Read more](#)

[www.houstontx.gov](http://www.houstontx.gov)

## H.D. 127 Updates

### Harris County Precinct 2 Parks and Trails Plan



## Boots to Business Reboot- Veteran Entrepreneurship



### Boots to Business Reboot- Veteran Entrepreneurship

Have you ever dreamed of owning your own business? The U.S. Small Business Administration and the UTRGV Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) are taking the Boots To Business/Reboot program online on May 26 27, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Central ...

[Read more](#)  
[web.lakehouston.org](http://web.lakehouston.org)

## Capitol & District Office Closures

The District & Capitol offices will remain closed in line with suggested Stay Home, Work Safe guidelines. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter or [district127.huberty@house.texas.gov](mailto:district127.huberty@house.texas.gov).

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